

City of Kittitas
Special Budget Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2012

Mayor Tony Helland called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council Special Budget Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., December 4, 2012.

Council members present were Jerry Gilmour, Rick Hink, Linda Huber, Todd Veness and Pat Cort. Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee; Chris Taylor, Dave Anderson- Police Department; Ben Whitehurst - Fire Department; Bryan Nash – Public Works.

Mayor Helland led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

Roll Call: All Council members present.

2013 Budget Discussion
(Using 5 year - dated 11/30/2012)

- 320 State Generated Revenues - Discussion of Liquor Profits. 3% need to be dedicated to Public Safety.
- Mayor Helland discussed a meeting he and Bryan Nash had with PSE Brian Lentz regarding what was done in the building of the new building which may make the City eligible for credits. This may change the budget.
- Time to renegotiate with Symplified regarding the lease of the water tower for their antennas. (#362 50 00 00)
- 360 Misc Revenues Easement Lease Sale PSE discussions.
- 514 Finance – Supplies, Postage, and Advertising – asked if that could be lowered due to no postage machine rental anymore. Clerk indicated that that was taken into consideration. Discussed Code Book updates.
- 316 Electricity Gas Tax appears that we don't have all the actual funds yet or did it get put somewhere else? On page 1, 316 41 – Electricity Taxes? Clerk will check this.
- Marylou Gilmour asked about the Library Fund being cut back in the budget it was explained to her that the County increased the Library money to \$7000. That money was not cut. Councilmember Cort asked if the Library Board had a wish list they should submit it.
- 401 Water/Sewer – Discussion
- Discussion about attorney costs by Councilmember Gilmour and Councilmember Hink also wanted to just check to see what other cities are paying for attorney services. Mayor Helland said he was happy with what our current attorney is doing and there are no local attorneys trained in municipalities and someone who is not trained would have to spend additional time in researching laws that govern cities. Council directed the Mayor to check to see who other cities use and costs.
- Discussion about Sales Tax numbers

Break at 7:40.p.m. Reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

- 528 – Kittcom Dispatch - Good news that Kittcom is less in this budget.
- Mayor indicated that the \$500 that he asked for on page 4 for increase in salary he would withdraw but wanted to be reconsidered after March. It would also reduce the Mayor Benefit amount also. In the

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513 1- 32 00 Executive – Fuel Consumption decrease that by \$1,000 to \$300.00.

- 518 Professional Services – Discussion about clarifying what this entails.
- 514 – Misc Int. Bank Fees – represents what Clerk worked with bank to reduce the fees.
- 515 – Attorney Fees – Councilmember Huber suggested that they reduce that amount to \$10,000.
- 514 – Small Tools & Equipment – Cut the \$200.
- 513 – Mayor Education and Travel – cut \$300.
- 514 – Per Diem/Travel – Cut \$500.
- 521 – Fuel (Security) – Cut to \$10,000. Chief Nierman is OK with this reduction.
- 521 – Overtime Wages – Cut \$1,500. Chief Nierman is OK with this.
- 521 – Uniforms – Ok to cut \$500.
- Discussion about the Police changing from using glocks to standardizing their issue side arms to 45's; they would have an opportunity to reload shells. Glocks can't shoot reloads so they have to buy new ammo. The mayor has donated 1500 rounds for the glock and they are running out of those. There would be a small expenditure to buy reloading equipment but in the long run they would save money.
- 521 – Perdiem/travel – Discussion about letting all of it for now.
- 522 – Telephone/dsl/computer support – Cut \$500.
- 522 – Communication – needs to be checked to see if that can come down some.
- 522 – Technology – asked what this would be since we spent nothing in 2012 in this line. Chief indicated that this could be dropped to \$300.
- 522 – Vehicle Fuel – Cut to \$1500.
- 522 – Telephone/dsl/computer support – Cut \$500. Ok by Chief.
- 522 – Power, Water/Sewer – Cut \$500. Two months left to pay in 2012.
- 522 – Repair and Maintenance – buying a transmission for the Brush Truck. Cut to \$4500.
- 522 – Professional Association – Cut \$200.
- 522 – Equipment and Supplies – Cut \$1220.
- 539 – Yard Waste – Discussion.
- Councilmember Huber took \$200 out of Irrigation Taxes and the cuts so far total \$26,279.35. In looking at page 9, we still have \$60,000 left to cut. We need to consider increasing the tax on Water/Sewer as revenue to current expense. Up for consideration. We also could look at the Building Inspector position. In the budget it comes to a total of \$24,819. Options were suggested and the Council has asked Mayor Helland to see what other cities are doing for Building Inspection and how it works. We either need to look at our fees or is it a service we can't afford anymore? Council finds this a hard decision because there is a person attached to this decision. Several options were discussed.
- Next meeting on December 11, 2012, and a meeting on December 18, 2012, to finalize the budget. The Clerk will advertize these dates to the public.
- Since the union contract will not be negotiated until after the budget is accepted, the wages were increased 2% to at least be prepared for the possibility of increases.
- The Resolution regarding the police vehicles was a budget discussion item at the November 27, 2012, meeting and the Police Department was told to bring the revised Resolution 12-0012, back to the Council at this meeting. Therefore, the revised Resolution 12-0012R is presented for Council consideration. Discussion by the Council to make a decision at the next regular meeting next Tuesday so the item is on the agenda. There is disagreement about a motion being made in the Special Meeting

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vs. Regular Council meeting.

MOTION: Motion to accept Resolution 12-0012R.

Motion made by Councilmember Hink; seconded by Councilmember Cort.

Motion Failed: 2 yes; 3 no (Gilmour not objecting to purchasing the vehicles but that it should be done in the Council meeting.)

Adjourn at 9:40 pm

Attest:

Mayor Helland

Debbie Lee, Clerk/Treasurer